

City Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Minutes

WORK SESSION

Mayor Watterson convened the work session at 6:30 pm with:

PRESENT

Councilmember Linda Gotovac

Councilmember Elaine Klamm

Councilmember Jeff Eisel

Councilmember Adam Carney

Councilmember Tianne Curtiss

1. Jody Stoltz from Tenino Food Bank presentation.

Jody Stoltz presentation: The Food Bank is going to be moving, she presented three drawings of what the layouts will look like. Discussed the upgrades that will be implemented with the entire system. She invites the councilmembers to come and take a look at the progress.

Seth with realtor is working with the Food Bank to help keep things on track, the inquiries into getting an update on the quote to sell. There are investors that are looking for specifics to potentially assist with an option to purchase the currently leased building.

Jody presented the Tenino Community Service Center 2025 numbers. People served 13,981, Households served 6,209.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Watterson convened the regular Council Meeting at 7:30PM with:

PRESENT

Councilmember Linda Gotovac

Councilmember Elaine Klamm

Councilmember Jeff Eisel

Councilmember Adam Carney

Councilmember Tianne Curtiss

Flag salute

AGENDA APPROVAL

2. Agenda Approval

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the 01/27/2026 Agenda as presented.

Councilmember Eisel invited the Tenino School District to come present regarding the current Levy. To be added to agenda per Councilmember Eisel.

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Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3. Approval of Minutes

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the 01/13/2026 Minutes as presented.

Councilmember Carney wanted to confirm that the committee assignments were correct since it was stated in work session notes that the Finance Committee still had Councilmember Gotovac, it was confirmed that was because it was just the discussion and the vote results are listed under Old Business.

One other editing is Councilmember Eisel regarding the Committee assignments be amended in the minutes as well. The Public Safety Committee should have had both Councilmembers Carney as well as Eisel. This has been amended under Old Business votes.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

CONSENT CALENDAR

4. Consent Calendar for January 14, 2026 through January 27, 2026 consisting of:

Payroll EFT's in the amount of \$34,143.92 and Claims Checks #33851 through #33883 and EFT's in the amount of \$159,999.19 for a Grand Total of \$194,143.11.

Liquor License Renewals: None

Recommended Action: Move to approve the consent calendar as presented.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Klamn.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

Motion passes: 5/0.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

PRESENTATIONS

Councilmember Eisel introduced the Tenino High School Principle Hyder and four current student athletes testimonials on behalf of the Tenino School District 2026 Replacement Capital Levy to Improve Student Safety, Technology, and Learning Environment. Students, Haley Huber, Harper Minerich, Taylor Henry and Gavin Mower spoke about Sports have helped students connect, and opportunities to grow.

Interim Fire Chief Gray presented Fire district report. In December there were 27 incidents with the majority in Tenino. He stated that their average response time is down to 3min, 13 secs. They would like to get a paramedic unit in here.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Resident and former Councilmember John O'Callahan, spoke about E-Bikes and transportation in Washington, the future of E-Bike use in Tenino.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

PROCLAMATIONS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

5. EV Charger - Change order 3. Delete additional charger at the Quarry House per change order 2 and quantity reconciliation for allowance items.

Reason for Change Order: Decreased scope of work

This change order includes all direct and indirect costs for labor, equipment, materials and the time required for completion of the work described delivered to the Owner ready for use.

Gibbs and Olson requested the City Council formally accept the project as complete.

Recommended Action: Move to accept Change order 3 for Tenino EV Chargers.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Curtiss.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

Motion passes: 5/0.

NEW BUSINESS

6. Tenino Farmers Market request. Use and block off Olympia Street and waive the Special Events Fee.

Recommended Action: Move to approve the use of Olympia St and waiver or deny the Special Events Fee.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Carney.

To approve the use of Olympia St and Deny the Special Events Fee.

Councilmember Gotovac would like for the Special Events Fee to be waived. Since the majority of the council was not in agreement she stated that she would pay the \$100.00 fee herself.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

Motion passes: 5/0.

RESOLUTIONS

7. A Resolution of The City Council of The City of Tenino, Washington, Amending the city financial management policies and adopting policies as authorized by RCW 35A.40.050, directing the City Clerk-Treasurer to move all investment related accrued interest into the City's General Fund.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Klamn.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

Motion passes: 5/0.

8. Capital Budget Support for Wolf Haven International - Treehouse Learning Center

Recommended Action: Motion to approve the Wolf Haven Letter of Support.

Motion made by Councilmember Gotovac, Seconded by Councilmember Klamn.

Voting Yea: Councilmember Gotovac, Councilmember Klamn, Councilmember Eisel, Councilmember Carney, Councilmember Curtiss.

Motion passes: 5/0.

ORDINANCES

None.

REPORTS

9. Outside Agency

1) Chamber of Commerce - Mayor Watterson reported on behalf of George Sharp. Thank you to Mayor Watterson and Councilmember Gotovac for recent Chamber Meeting. Congratulations to the Tenino Telephone Company and Tenino Public Works. Next Chamber Lunch Forum next week.

3) South Thurston Economic Development Initiative (STEDI) - Next meeting February 20th at the Lucky Eagle Casino. February 2nd at 5:30PM at The Sandstone Bar & Grill.

10. 13. Committees/Commissions

2) Finance Committee - talked about budget, next meeting in a few weeks.

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3) Planning Commission - Mayor Watterson asked the Commission at their last meeting to please appoint a commissioner to attend a Council Meeting once a month to report.

5) Public Works Committee - they just finished work at the Food Bank - reinforcing the rafters in the trusses for Solar Panel install. With the good weather they have been finishing work at the ball field. Cannot do the outfield until after Little League. Brent Gibbs at the Treatment Plant will be taking his test for the Level 3 Operator. Once he passes he will be out there as full operator and we are going to be posting an entry level experienced Water Utility Worker.

11. 14. Staff

1) Chief of Police - None. Councilmember Eisel requested a meeting with the Chief to compliment the new officer Sneed who has been a Tenino School District Resource Officer. Reportedly She has been great at the schools and the students are responding well to her.

2) Director of Public Works - They just finished off the Food Bank Warehouse roof reinforcement, for solar panel installation. This saved the project a lot of money.

4) PARC Specialist - Jessica has been continually helping with grants.

5) Clerk/Treasurer - Nancy off today, will be here next meeting and would like to introduce our part-time administrator Laurie Christomos.

6) Mayor - Had pre-submission conference, Colvin's meeting. They would like to start in the next 18 months but it will most likely require more time. Interview with KGY on Wednesday. Met with the new Tumwater Mayor, looking forward to talking more with her about working together in the future.

12. 15. Liaisons

2) Solid Waste Advisory Board - Meeting next week.

4) Tenino School Board - Meeting last night 1/16/26, high school has an upcoming play. Will have a presentation from the High schoolers about the Levy. Recognition of Rand, principle of the middle school saved a students life from choking. Recognition form school board and the board of commissioners. Had a high school game, hall of fame recognition. one good statistic, Tenino's graduation rate is above 90%, the average in the state is 86%. Fiscally they are reconciled and on top of that.

5) Thurston Regional Planning Council (TRPC) - Mayor Watterson did call and got everything changed over to him, will start going to these meetings next month.

8) Legislature - Councilmember Gotovac states that there are 3 bills currently regarding taxing. Bill we do not want, prohibits local government from adopting or enforcing laws that criminalize, penalize or otherwise prohibit a person from engaging in activities on public property unless the local government can demonstrate that adequate alternative shelter space was available at the time, place of the contact. Suggests that the Mayor and residents call to amend for small towns and cities to be exempt at 1-800-562-6000.

In short, the bill prohibits jurisdictions from making laws against homeless people living in public parks which means larger cities that have shelters to house them, it ignores the smaller cities like Tenino that do not have any such shelters available.

PUBLIC COMMENTS 2

Resident and former Councilmember John O'Callahan addressed the Council and new Councilmembers regarding the Tenino Farmers Market and why the City Council has waved the fee in the past. It was granted each year because of the large number of visitors it brought Tenino and the benefit this influx brings to local businesses, it has always been a way to support 5013C in State of Washington. It is just a better idea to support it.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Watterson adjourned the meeting at 7:58pm.